Credit provisions for farmers

530.SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of farmers being provided credit by the banking sector has gone down during the year, 2007-08 though the credit disbursed has doubled;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has made any study to analyse the reasons for the mismatch between the number of farmers accounts financed and the credit disbursed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and findings thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (d) No, Sir. As per the information available with the Government, the number of farmers being provided credit by the banking system has shown an increasing trend during the year 2007-08 (till December, 2007) as compared to the corresponding period of last year *i.e.* December, 2006. as may be seen from the following Table:

Sl. No.	Agency	2007-08 (upto Dee 2007)*		Position (upto Dec.2006)	
		No of A/cs (in lakh)	Amt. (Rs. Crore)	No. of A/cs (in lakh)	Amt. (Rs. Crore)
1	Cooperative Banks	173.34	35,993.27	151.51	33,174.32
2	RRBs	47.36	18,278.35	47.17	15,170.03
3	Commercial Banks	122.48	108,429.58	113.34	100,998.81
	TOTAL:	343.18	162701.20	312.02	149,343.16

* Data Provisional

Import of Gender Testing Kits on foetus

531.SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has received any intimation from Health Ministry regarding import of Gender Testing Kits on Foetus; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by his Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Customs field formation have been suitably alerted not to release the import of Gender Testing Kits on Foetus and to take appropriate action under the Customs Act, 1962.

Consequences of appreciation of rupee

532. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that appreciation of rupee *vis-a-vis* dollar has resulted into micro-gain and macro-pain;

(b) if so, what sectors of Indian economy have been adversely affected by the appreciation of the rupee;